

ARGUMENTS/REMARKS

Applicant thanks the Examiner for the very thorough consideration given the present application.

Claims 1-10 and 23-27 are now present in this application. Claims 1, 7 and 23 are independent.

Reconsideration of this application is respectfully requested.

Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. § 103

Claims 1-6 and 23-27 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) over Kubo, in view of U.S. Patent No. 4,017,156 to Moriyama, and further in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,326,641B1 to Choi. Claims 7-10 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Kubo, in view of Choi. These rejections are respectfully traversed.

The Examiner admits that Kubo and Moriyama have certain deficiencies, and relies on Choi to supply the deficiencies.

While not conceding the appropriateness of the Examiner's rejection, but merely to advance prosecution of the present Application, Applicant respectfully submits that the Choi reference cannot be used as a prior art reference to reject the Applicant's claims.

Particularly, the Choi patent application was filed in the U.S. on November 24, 1999. The instant application was filed in the U.S. on April 26, 2000 and claims the benefit of priority of Korea application No. 1999-18790 filed on May 26, 1999, predating the Choi application. Attached hereto, is a certified priority document including an English language translation thereof. The Applicant respectfully submits that Applicant's claim to priority is hereby perfected. Accordingly the Applicant respectfully requests that the Choi reference be withdrawn.

Conclusion

All of the stated grounds of rejection have been properly traversed, accommodated, or rendered moot. Applicant therefore respectfully requests that the Examiner reconsider all presently outstanding rejections and that they be withdrawn. It is believed that a full and complete response has been made to the outstanding Office Action, and as such, the present application is in condition for allowance.

If the Examiner believes, for any reason, that personal communication will expedite prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to telephone Percy L. Square, Registration No. 51,084, at (703) 205-8034, in the Washington, D.C. area.

Application No.: 09/559,403
Art Unit 2871

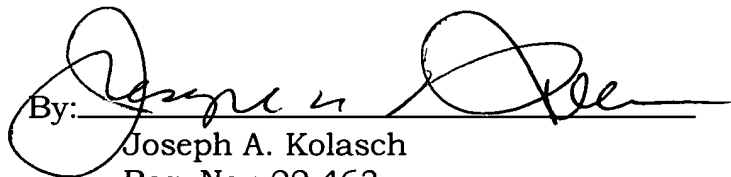
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Office Action dated November 2, 2004
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Prompt and favorable consideration of this Amendment is respectfully requested.

If necessary, the Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future replies, to charge payment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 02-2448 for any additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16 or 1.17; particularly, extension of time fees.

Respectfully submitted,

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Attachment: English Translation of Korean Patent Publication No. P1999-1870